

Pirates Lose District Opener

Spitnale Sets Season Scoring Record with 661

Putnam County Sentinel – March 17, 1976

Cold shooting and foul trouble had a devastating effect on Putnam County League co-champs Continental last Wednesday night in the opening round of district semi-final cage action at Elida when the Pirates bowed out of the tourney at the hands of Ottoville's Big Green by a score of 57-70.

Foul trouble took its toll on Continental early in the game when they had all five starters on the bench at the halftime buzzer. Spitnale, Ron Harter and Schulte each had three personals in the first half. Starters Gerald Tegenkamp and Dan Conkright were also pulled by Coach Don Huber in the second quarter.

Spitnale was the only Pirate in double figures. As the 6'2" senior guard forward played the final game of his high school cage career he scored 24 points. Spitnale connected on 42 percent from the field (9 of 21) and made six of nine at the line to end his career at 1,307 points over four years of playing at Continental.

Spitnale ended the year with the third highest all time season average, 28.7 points. He accumulated 661 points as a senior for the Pirates, setting a record for the most individual points in one year by any Putnam County player. He surpassed his own brother's record of 640 points which has stood since the 1973-74 season when he played at Conti.

Spitnale's career accumulation of 1,307 puts him in seventh place among the all-time scorers from Putnam County.

Next high scorer for the Pirates against Ottoville was Gerald Tegenkamp with eight points followed by Ron Harter and Rick Beverly with six each.

For Ottoville, who couldn't do much wrong, five of six scorers hit double figures. Seniors Gene Miller and Nick Burgei led the pack with 15 points each. Jeff Schimmoeller and Karl Wehri had 12 each and Keith Gasser came through with 10. Senior forward Mark Vorst had six points.

OTTOVILLE	18	16	10	26	70
CONTI	9	10	17	21	57

OTTOVILLE 25-20-70

G.Miller 4-7-15. K.Gasser 5-0-10. K.Weheri 4-4-12. N.Burgei 5-5-15. J.Schimmoeller 5-2-12. M.Vorst 2-2-6.

CONTINENTAL 23-11-57

B.Spitnale 9-6-24. R.Beverly 3-0-6. D.Conkright 2-1-5. G.Tegenkamp 4-0-8. W.Schulte 1-3-5. K.Wilson 0-1-1. R.Harter 3-0-6. S.Brown 1-0-2.